

Today's *Wall Street Journal* have a couple articles that are worth a read on health care reform. The first is Kimberly Strassel's column "Potomac Watch" [which states that](#)

*The party of the left owns the White House, a filibuster-proof Senate, and a 70-seat House majority. As one House Republican aide quipped: "We could have every GOP congressman and their parents vote against a Democratic bill, and still not stop it." All Democrats have to do is agree on something.*

*You can't blame the GOP when you own every Washington institution.*

- *Unleashing Congress: Not wanting to repeat Hillary Clinton's mistaken attempt to micromanage Congress, the administration took the equally dangerous path of no management at all. Left to wild impulses, Nancy Pelosi, Henry Waxman and Ted Kennedy took the most radical of Mr. Obama's proposals (a public option entitlement) as a starting point, and ran left with new mandates, income tax surcharges, and business penalties. The House bill stirred a Blue Dog rebellion and mired the bill in committee. Mrs. Pelosi failed to include enticements for susceptible Republicans, leaving her hard-pressed to poach GOP votes.*

*The White House's decision to let Mrs. Pelosi charge ahead with her climate bill has also been a disaster. To get that unpopular energy tax through, Mrs. Pelosi had to strip conservative Democrats of their committee rights and then arm-twist them into votes. Their egos and poll ratings bruised, this crew is balking at taking a second one for the team.*

The *Wall Street Journal* also [editorializes today about "a better health reform"](#) noting

*The irony is that pretty much everyone in Washington agrees that the system needs improvement-and the double irony is that the basis for a major reform that combines ideas from both parties already exists. Yet Mr. Obama has delegated health care to left-wing committee chairmen in Congress, much as he did on cap and tax and the stimulus. While a less rushed, less divisive compromise would anger the left, it would also guarantee that a bill passes and would be far more durable.*

